Overview

Residents with continuing housing status (i.e., renewable housing contracts) are eligible to change rooms and room types through the annual internal room lottery each Spring. Incoming officers may also elect to participate in this process.

Please make sure to read and understand the internal lottery process, as described below:

1. If you have continuing housing status, you must renew your contract with the MIT Housing Office by April 13. An email with this information was sent to all residents on March 22, 2016.

2. A list of available rooms will be available within the lottery system. A list of all rooms is available here: (Rooms sorted by room number) and (Rooms sorted by room type). Look at the list of available rooms and vacancy dates, noting that in-house moves MUST be completed by August 20th, 2016. (If you will be changing rooms and will be away for the summer, you may have to vacate your current room before you leave, since it must be available for a new resident by August 21, 2016.) You may wish to visit any specific rooms you think you might want to move to, but note that rooms in the construction side of the building may not be accessible and currently occupied rooms may be viewed at the occupants' discretion. Floorplans are available here for reference: Floorplans. Please note the list of available rooms is dynamic and we recommend check the list often during the lottery period. Newly available rooms will be bolded out.

3. Submit an online ballot with up to 50 choices for rooms by 11:59 pm on Sunday April 17th, 2016. If you want a specific roommate (who must also be eligible to participate in the internal lottery), be sure that both of you list each other on your ballots. One way requests (i.e. person A requests person B, but person B does not request person A) will not be honored.

4. Changes for 2016/2017 process due to the HVAC construction: Residents with continuing status who lived in SP prior to the HVAC construction can choose to claim their rooms from Spring 2015 and will have priority to return to those rooms. Residents who wish to return to their pre-construction rooms must enter the lottery and switch their default room
to their Spring 2015 room. Then, their current room will become available for others to select. As a consequence, the list of available rooms may change, and we recommend you check the list often during the lottery period if rooms you want are not on the list. Results will be sent out by Sunday April 24th, 2016. Seniority points (based on house service and length of residency) will be used to determine the sequence of room assignments: Check your seniority points.

5. Note that these results are binding. **If you receive a new room assignment through this lottery, you must take it.** In addition, for those entering into the Internal Housing Lottery by merit of holding an officer position for the 2016-2017 academic year, your assignment is contingent on satisfactory service in your position. The Sidney Pacific Executive Council, in consultation with the Housemasters, reserves the right to terminate assignments at any point should an officer prove defunct in their duties.

Please note that the MIT Housing Office makes room assignments for first-year residents who get re-assigned to Sidney-Pacific. Thus, with very few exceptions (other than officers), first-years do not participate in the internal lottery.

**Detailed Administrative Policies**

**Purpose:**

The internal housing lottery provides an opportunity for Sidney-Pacific residents with renewable housing contracts (i.e., continuing status) to change rooms or room types and for incoming officers to select rooms.

**Eligibility:**

The internal housing lottery is open to Sidney-Pacific residents with renewable housing contracts and to incoming house officers. Current first-year residents who have one-year contracts are ineligible (unless they become officers); they must instead enter the continuing housing allocation and if successful will receive notification and be assigned a room by the Housing Office. **Eligible residents who wish to remain assigned to their current rooms should not enter the lottery.** By default, your current room will be your default assignment and will be unavailable to other residents. Residents with
continuing status who lived in SP prior to the HVAC construction can claim their rooms from Spring 2015 and will have priority over returning to their room if they choose. If you do not enter the lottery and your current room is claimed by a previous resident, we will contact you to enter the lottery.

Process:

Participants in the internal housing lottery will be given the opportunity to list their top 50 preferences for rooms and/or room types. Participants can choose their default room to be their current room or their Spring 2015 room (the current room is the default unless you change it). If you change your default room to your Spring 2015 room, your current room will become available to others to select. As a consequence, the list of available rooms is dynamic, and we recommend you check the list often during the lottery period.

Participants not awarded a room through this process will remain assigned to their default room. Seniority points will be used to determine the sequence of room assignments; ties among participants with the same number of seniority points will be broken randomly.

Seniority points:

Every resident earns one resident seniority point for every semester of residence in Sidney-Pacific. Officers may earn up to two additional officer seniority points for every semester of holding office. Any resident who provides exceptional service to the house may be awarded an additional service seniority point per semester at the discretion of SPEC with recommendations from residents and the house council. Check your seniority points.

Roommates:

Both parties need to be eligible for the internal housing lottery, and both parties must indicate their desire to live with each other on the online ballot. The seniority points between the two parties will be summed to determine their selection priority within the lottery.

Co-ed housing pilot program:

In continuation of the 2009 pilot program, co-ed housing will be available to a limited number of continuing residents who specify roommates of the opposite gender. The co-ed pilot program policies are as follows:
- The number of co-ed rooms allocated through the internal lottery will be capped at 12.
- If one roommate in a co-ed arrangement moves out partway through the year, the Housing Office will attempt to fill the vacancy with a new resident of the same gender as the remaining roommate (thus reverting the room to single-gender). If Housing is unable to do so, however, the remaining roommate must be willing to either (a) have a stranger of the opposite gender be their new roommate; or (b) move to another room, provided space is available.
- If the co-ed program is not extended beyond 2016-17, residents in co-ed rooms may keep their arrangement until one of the roommates moves out.

**Capacity limitations:**

In order to ensure a diverse resident population, the number of beds allocated to students in the internal housing lottery will be capped at 70% of all the beds in each wing or floor. No current residents will be displaced by this rule; if a wing or floor currently exceeds this cap, it simply means that no new beds will be allocated in the particular floor or wing.

**Move-out / move-in dates:**

Move dates are subject to the following constraints:

1. Rooms will not be available for move-in until a few days after the previous resident moves out, so that cleaning and necessary repairs can occur. Toward the end of summer (the busiest time of year), 4-7 days may be required. The "Vacancy Date" shown on the list below is 2 days after move-out, which is the earliest date a room could be available in the best-case scenario.
2. If your housing contract ends on August 15, 2016, you may move into your new room assignment earlier (by specifying a move-in date when you sign your new contract), if that room has an earlier vacancy date. Alternatively, if your room becomes vacant earlier, you are not required to move in as soon as it becomes vacant - you may select your move-in date (as long as it's before August 20, 2016).
3. Doubles and quads that change gender through the internal lottery will not be available for move-in until the LATER of the vacancy dates. More
precisely, if both rooms of a two-bedroom suite are on the vacancy list and a resident of gender opposite to the current residents chooses the room, he or she will not be able to move in until both current residents have moved out.

4. All moves must be completed by August 20th, 2016 (excepting moves to rooms that only become available in September). In particular, if you will be away for the summer, please vacate your room before you leave: it must be available for a new resident by August 21st, 2016.

After the conclusion of the internal lottery, Housing will contact each resident who is changing rooms to coordinate his or her precise move date, which can be any date within the above window. (Note that there are no rent penalties for mid-month moves within Sidney-Pacific. Rent is prorated for in-house moves between room types.) Each resident will then be issued a transfer letter confirming and approving the room transfer. To obtain keys and coordinate their physical moves, residents should contact the House Manager at sp-housemanager [at] mit [dot] edu.

Penalties:

Lottery results are binding. Participants in the internal room lottery who decide to forfeit their new room assignment will be fined $300 and will be ineligible to enter the next two internal room lotteries. This penalty will also apply to residents who do not vacate their old room by the move-out date (as arranged with the House Manager).

Rent:

Lottery participants will be responsible for the rent associated with the new room type. The current rent schedule for the remainder of the 2015-2016 academic year is as follows:

1. Two Bedroom Quad: $814
2. Two Bedroom Double: $1220
3. Single Efficiency: $1371
4. Two Bedroom Two Bath Apt: $1371

Note: these prices do not reflect the additional discount due to the HVAC process for 2015-2016.

The 2016-2017 rent schedule is as follows:

1. Two Bedroom Quad: $838
2. Two Bedroom Double: $1257
3. Single Efficiency: $1412
4. Two Bedroom Two Bath Apt: $1412

There is an additional house tax of $6 per month.

Questions:

If you have questions, please first check the Lottery FAQ page. Any other questions can be directed to the HVAC committee at sp-hvac-committee [at] mit [dot] edu,

Available Rooms

The list of available rooms is dynamic and will be accessible on the lottery page. Please check the list often during the lottery period as new rooms become available when participants enter the lottery. A list of all rooms is available here: (Rooms sorted by room number) and (Rooms sorted by room type).

Results

The participants will be notified of the results by April 24, 2016.